



City of San Antonio
NCR
Stronger Businesses
for Stronger Neighborhoods

Neighborhood
Commercial
Revitalization Program

City of San Antonio
Neighborhood Action Department
David D. Garza, Director

Abigail Kinnison, Editor

15th Annual Neighborhood Conference

Sponsored by the Neighborhood Resource Center

Created in 1994, the Neighborhood Resource Center is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to training neighborhood leaders to build their communities.

Saturday, June 5th 8:15 am—2:30 pm

Kelly USA Building 171 (Admin Bldg)

Free Admission—Free Parking—Open to the Public

For more information call 735-0586



Operation Facelift Update

There are currently four Operation Facelift Projects under construction and two awaiting Design review. Funding is still available and Abigail is always accepting applications.

Stay tuned for an Operation Facelift Workshop in an NCR near you.
For more info call 207-3971.



NEIGHBORHOOD
COMMERCIAL
REVITALIZATION
PROGRAM

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 9 ISSUE 1 SPRING 2004

Neighborhood Heritage Initiative Grants Now Available

Story by Abigail Kinnison

The Office of Cultural Affairs has released the application and schedule for the FY 2004-05 Neighborhood Heritage Initiative Grants. Applications are limited to designated Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) agencies and are intended provide financial support for a variety of cultural/arts-centered activities that strengthen the revitalization efforts of NCRs. The project must support an NCR community event (either new or existing), examples include exhibitions, performances or public art that promote community heritage, attract new residents and visitors, and encourage economic development. NCRs are encouraged to apply in partnership with an arts/cultural organization or an individual artist or cultural partner. The minimum award is \$5,000 with no matching requirement. The project can take up to two consecutive years to complete. Applications are reviewed on the basis of Artistic Merit/Cultural Relevance; Partnership./Stakeholder Involvement; Impact; Budget and Schedule; and City Policy/Plan Coordination. Applications and additional information are available of the web at www.sansntonio.gov/art or from Victoria Garcia de Marquez at the Office of Cultural Affairs at 207-8488. The deadline for applications is May 7, 2004.

Open Call for Sweep Applications

Story by Sebastian Guajardo

Does your community have code compliance or other health and safe issues? Do you want to learn more about City services and programs available to you and your neighbors? If so, the City’s Neighborhood Target Sweep Program might be for you.

The City’s Neighborhood Action Department (NAD) is accepting applications for participation in its nationally recognized Neighborhood Target Sweep Program. The NAD coordinates two neighborhood sweeps per city council district every fiscal year. Each two-week neighborhood sweep brings together teams of multi-departmental services to address the specific needs of each community. A Special Projects Coordinator will be in the community at a “Command Post” from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily during each neighborhood sweep. Through the Neighborhood sweeps the City provides coordinated services to a neighborhood with boundaries of 40 to 50 blocks, or approximately 1000 – 1200 properties.

City staff partners with residents, businesses, community leaders, and council offices to coordinate standard services for each Neighborhood Sweep. Standard Services include: flyer delivery to each home and business announcing the Sweep, community meetings, door to door Code Compliance inspections, brush and bulky item collection, minor street repair and pothole repairs, graffiti abatement, replacing damaged street signs, Animal Care services, vector control, community service projects, and 6 months of follow up to ensure that issues and concerns are addressed. Staff

Story continued on p.3

Operation Facelift Question Corner



Question: *How does the Project Review by the Design Review Team work?*

Answer: After a completed application is received in the NCR Office but before the contract is drawn up and signed, the project must be reviewed by the Area’s Design Review Team (DRT). The Operation Facelift Coordinator will contact the applicant and arrange the DRT meeting. The DRT consists of the Area’s Coordinator, a representative of the Area’s Design/Planning Committee, a member of the City’s Historic Preservation Office staff and the Operation Facelift Coordinator. The applicant will be invited to attend and describe the improvements and if necessary a site visit will occur. The DRT will then discuss the merits of the project and form a recommendation to either fund the project, or require the applicant to make changes and re-submit. The Area’s design guidelines are used to guide the appearance of the corridor and the DRT will utilize them when reviewing Operation Facelift applications. General design guidelines developed by the NCR staff may be used for areas that have not yet developed area specific guidelines. Typical DRT suggestions include continuity and type of materials and paint colors, transparency of storefront windows, and signage.

Have a Operation Facelift Question? Submit it to Abigail for next Quarter’s Newsletter.



Presa Real Happenings

Submitted by Franki Martin

Presa Real welcomes the Wolverine All-Stars to 2000 S. Presa Street! Many of you who are familiar with the neighborhood may remember this location as the old Ace Mart at the northern boundary of the Presa Real target area. Specializing in tumbling/gymnastics and cheerleading, the Wolverines offer classes for students through high school age. The Wolverines are very excited to have three times more floor space than in their former location, which means they can plan for additional equipment and expand their program in the future. The group managed to move in and prepare for classes over the New Year, with only five short days to prepare for returning students! Presa Real is especially excited because this is one of the many business types identified in our market analysis- a family oriented, entertainment destination that brings increased activity into the neighborhood during the evenings and on weekends. We encourage you to pay the Wolverines a visit, enroll your future tumbling star in a class or two, and please be sure to tell them that the folks at Presa Real sent you!

PW16, 2301 South Presa may become the next hot spot for cool art and evening activities in the neighborhood. Formerly a Piggly Wiggly grocery store in the heart of the Presa Real district, the little old building is now home to artists Oscar Alvarado and Robert Tatum. The “art space in progress” also holds “Grackle Mundy” on Monday evenings. PW16 also holds open house on most First Fridays! Guests enjoy live music, interesting conversation and who knows what performance art may take place as well. Keep an eye out for notices in the San Antonio Current and other local publications. The owners have great plans to renovate and restore the red brick building over time. Stop in- or at least be sure to slow down as you travel by- to take a look at the ever-changing storefront art display. We wish the PW16 group many happy years in Presa Real!

“Sweeps” continued from p.1 will work with residents and neighborhood leaders to create a Community Action Plan to address the specific needs of the community that may not be included in the standard services.

Sweep applications are available on the City’s website at www.sanantonio.gov/nad or interested parties may contact Sebastian Guajardo at 207-2820 for an application. Neighborhood associations, schools, churches, business organizations, or any group of interested citizens may apply for a neighborhood sweep. The deadline for submission of applications is June 30, 2004. All applications will be evaluated and recommendations will be made to each council member for two neighborhoods. The neighborhood evaluation criteria includes: planned and recently completed capital investment, recognized neighborhood leadership and community involvement, demographic and economic profile, crime and code statistics, as well as housing assessment.

Goals of the program include: enhancing the appearance of neighborhoods, fostering better communication between residents and local government, promoting long-term property maintenance, and developing long term neighborhood based problem solving. If you would like to partner with the City to achieve these goals we encourage you to apply for a Neighborhood Sweep.

TUNE IN TO TVSA CHANNEL 21 FOR “IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD” MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 10:00AM AND TUESDAYS AT 3PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS	
★ April 2—First Friday—Southtown	★ May 19—NCR Training—Brown Bag 3: Conflict Resolution 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
★ April 4—Daylight Savings Time, Spring forward	★ May 27—CDBG HOME award date
★ April 11—Easter	★ May 31—Memorial Day Holiday
★ April 22—Earth Day	★ June 4—First Friday—Southtown
★ April 23—Battle of Flowers Holiday	★ June 5 —15th Annual Neighborhood Conference —Kelly USA 8:15 AM– 2:30 PM
★ April 30—National Arbor Day	★ June 7-10—Housing Summit
★ May—National Bike Month	★ June 19—NCR Training—TBA
★ May 5—Cinco de Mayo	★ June 19—Juneteenth
★ May 7—Neighborhood Heritage Initiative application deadline	★ June 20– Father’s Day
★ May 7—First Friday—Southtown	★ June 30—Sweeps application deadline
★ May 9—Mother’s Day	

Inaugural RACSO Party Deemed a Success

Southtown held it’s first ever RACSO-An evening with the Stars party. RASCO is an Oscar viewing with a Southtown spin. Held February 29 at the Blue Star Brewing Company, the event attracted an estimated 150 people throughout the night. Guests not only enjoyed viewing the Oscars themselves, but also a buffet, great prizes for answers to trivia questions, a costume contest, door prizes and a silent auction with sixty Southtown specific packages. Overall the event raised an estimated \$3,000 for Southtown. Undoubtedly, this first time event will quickly become a regular annual event for Southtown. Sponsors for RACSO included King William Town homes, Sterling Bank, Taco Haven, San Antonio Current, Blue Star Brewing Company, Planet of the Tapes, Capers, Added Attractions and Ricos Products.

Contributed by Vince Martinez